

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

Madison 6

DEPARTMENT OF GENETICS

March 9, 1959

Dr. Joshua Lederberg  
Department of Genetics  
Stanford University  
School of Medicine  
Stanford, California

Dear Josh:

Thank you for your letter of February 9 with the kind comments about the memo of January 21 to Nathan Smith regarding exchange transfusion, etc.

As yet I have not heard from Smith and frankly I'm too busy right now to contact him. I'm afraid that it will take an initiative from him to get this study underway, especially since all we can do here are the laboratory tests. Any field work must be done by Smith et al.

I am in complete agreement with your comments about the "fuzziness" of proposals #4 and 5. They were included as "shotgun" approaches without much consideration of their practicality.

Becca Patras isn't making much progress on the single cell problem. I expect to go over her results within the next few days and decide on the course to pursue. I'll keep you informed. To keep her happy she has started to extract substances from RBC's of cattle to get some idea of the qualitative nature of the antigenic components of the cells. This was the problem that I wanted to attack when I first came to Wisconsin. After about a year of "nothing" I decided that a Ph.D. thesis was the first order of business and that I'd never get one working on the cells. I'm happy to have her doing this and she seems to have some real promising approaches to the problem.

Elaine and I still reminisce about the wonderful time we had with you and Esther on our recent visit to Palo Alto. I can assure you that we will not miss the next chance to visit you again. Madison is shovelling out of the worst snow storm in over 25 years. It's horrible. You left just in time!

I hope that you received the "History of Genetics"--six copies were sent to you several weeks ago.

Write occasionally, we miss you and Esther.

As ever,

*Bill*  
W. H. Stone

Stone, W. H.